



(04/15/2012)

OVER SIX YEARS OF SUPPORTING OUR K-9 TROOPS!
MORE THAN 300 MILITARY WORKING DOG TEAMS SUPPORTED!

More than \$73,000 of supplies shipped down range!

<http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.asp>

Hello everyone! We are currently supporting seven (7) kennels and twenty-two (22) deployed Air Force, Army, and Navy teams as of April 15, 2012. April 2012 brings us to six years and seven month of operation for our “Old Dawgs & Pups” program. Once again, I’d just like to say thank you to all of you that have supported our awesome programs and especially our troops and their canine partners deployed down range.

Area of Operation Status - K-9 Teams Arriving/Departing

We are currently supporting troops at Bagram Air Base, FOB Shank, and FOB Parmikan, Afghanistan; Two Undisclosed Locations in Southwest Asia; Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar and Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan. We have four (4) new Pups to introduce this month.

Pups heading home from the AOR

Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan: SSgt John Makripodis & MWD Carlos will be rotating back to a great spring at Seymour-Johnson AFB, North Carolina.

FOB Shank, Afghanistan: SSgt Aaron Escalante & MWD Mushe are packing for their home trip back to the desert of Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona.

Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyzstan: SSgt Mary Boyer and MWD Tomy should be back at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington when this newsletter hits the street.

Pups arriving in the AOR

Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan: SSgt Brian Klein & MWD Benny, deployed from the 355th SFS, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. The team is supported by Peggy Finzgar (FoK). This is Brian and Benny’s second tour with OD&P.

Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar: SSgt Billy DeLeon & MWD Roky, deployed from the 21st SFS, Peterson AFB, Colorado. The team is supported by Jim Coggins (Takhli).

Undisclosed Location in Southwest Asia: TSgt Brandi Throgmorton, Trainer, deployed from the 1st Special Operations Security Forces Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Florida. This is Brandi’s third tour with us and she is once again supported by Mike Diercks (Korat).

SSgt Cal Rogers & MWD Fero, deployed from Robbins AFB, Georgia. The team is supported by Dixie Whitman (FoK).

379th ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar



SSgt Mike Ruiz & MWD Emor share some time together following a training session at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. As we all remember – these are special times for bonding! SSgt Ruiz & Emor are deployed from Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona and there are sponsored by Skip Davis (48th IPSD).



SSgt Melissa Burns and MWD Cherry are our newest pups at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. The team is deployed from Columbus AFB, Mississippi and they are supported by Janet Wise Parker and Janet Eversole (FoK).

379th ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar - Continued

Well, it finally happened – the Guardian Pet beds were “G.I.” tested and approved. SSgt Robert Ford proves that the beds we send down range can support both parts of the dog team.



The Guardian pet bed was supplied by SSgt Ford’s sponsor – Bob Sullivan (Phu Cat).



Once MWD Saman got SSgt Ford off his bed, he shows us how the equipment really works!

On the right, MWD Saman and SSgt Ford display their ODP coin, patch, War Dog decal and Leatherman Surge and Serac flashlight.

379th ESFS – Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar – Continued



SSgt Kieran Gibson and MWD Ruth just sent us these photographs. During their shift they were able to take a moment to complete some training. As you can see, Ruth has two sides (boy, could I really get into some trouble here) as we have seen before.

Rumor has it that Ruth may have enjoyed some treats that their sponsor Bob Curnick (NKP) had just sent the team – something to the effect of “Taste great – Less filling”. Then the team got serious and ready to train. Finally, at the bottom, Ruth shows how the system works – “Try to take my treats – I’ll whip your butt!” The team is deployed from Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

FOB Shank, Afghanistan



Sometimes you can just tell it's been a long day!

SSgt Aaron Escalante and MWD Mushe take advantage of a little “break time” following an OTW mission near FOB Shank, Afghanistan. It sure is easy to see that these guys have been humping.

You can almost feel the exhaustion in this photograph – but you can count on one thing for sure - that ball being safe! This is Mushe’s first tour and from what we have heard he has done a great job. Something just tells me there will be more work for Mushe to do in the future.

SSgt Escalante has been presented a membership in the Vietnam Dog Handler Association (VDHA) by his sponsor, Bill Cummings (U-Tapao). The team has served at the “Mad Dog” Kennels at Bagram Air Base before being forward deployed to FOB Shank, Afghanistan.

This is SSgt Escalante’s second tour with Old Dawgs & Pups. He was supported during that tour by Kelly Bateman (Ubon) when he served at Al Udeid, Qatar in 2010.

The team should be heading home to Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona in the very near future.

Bill Cummings, his sponsor, has rewarded SSgt Escalante with a year’s membership in the Vietnam Dog Handler Association for his service in Afghanistan. He will be presented his membership and other Association credentials when he arrives back in Arizona.

355th ESFS – Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan

It's been a busy time at Bagram Air Base (we're sure most of you have either heard or have seen the news concerning Afghanistan lately). In the photograph below SSgt Kevin Nelson (in the lead) supports SSgt Halligan and MWD Ronnie as they begin their move to the starting point of the mission. In the photograph below SSgt Nelson is mounted up for part of a vehicle patrol. He even has his new MUT on his gear – he's GOOD TO GO now!

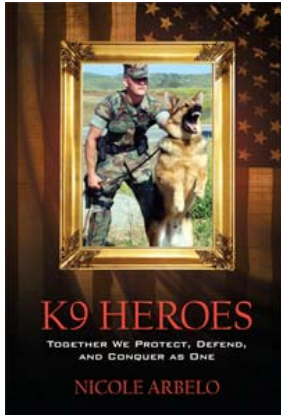
SSgt Kevin Nelson, the Kennel Master at Bagram is deployed from Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota, is supported by Bill Cummings (U-Tapao).



iTune App supports Old Dawgs & Pups – Please pass along!

A few months ago Jon Sarabia, one of our original pups introduced our OD&P program to Nicole Arbelo. Nicole is the author of **K9 Heroes: Together we Protect, Defend, and Conquer as One**. After the introduction, and a few hours on the telephone and exchanging e-mails Nicole made the decision to support our program and to learn more about all of us, both our “Pups” and our “Old Dawgs”. **PLEASE PASS THIS INFORMATION ALONG TO YOUR K-9 FRIENDS!**

Before we go any further, please show your support by visiting Nicole’s website and preview K9 Heroes; www.k9heroes.us/



Nicole advised that a friend of was in the process of publishing a song about our canine heroes and the bonds they shared with their handlers. OK, this was right up our alley!

The song was written and performed by Dru Vocals and it is NOW ON iTUNES! it can be previewed on You Tube at the address below:

Thank you so much to Dru Vocals who sings this AWESOME song.

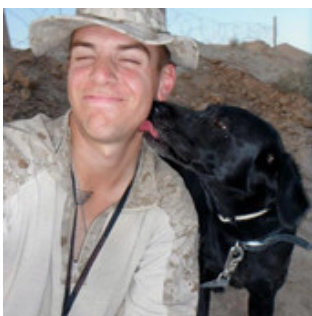
All the proceeds will go to Old Dawgs and Pups. It's on Itunes under Dru Vocals.

The title is “**Come Home**” and it is just a fantastic song! HERE IS THE LINK!

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_UPxC7rqCE&feature=youtu.be

Here’s the KICKER! If you go to itunes, the APP can be purchased and downloaded for .99 cents and ALL PROCEEDS COME TO OLD DAWGS & PUPS!

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/album/come-homesingle/id517687728>



- Genres: [Hip Hop/Rap](#), [Music](#)
- Released: Apr 06, 2012
- 2012 Dru Vocals Recording Studio
- \$0.99

Here’s our first review by one of our own – Don Poss:

Bill,

You know that I hate rap. But I’ve got to say that is so very cool and I’m still choking down the lump in my throat. Check it out: <http://www.war-stories.com/odap/ws-odap-index.asp>

**332nd ESFS – Undisclosed Location Southwest Asia
March 2012**



SrA Kathy Shih & MWD Luxi, TSgt Jason Adams, SSgt Darryl Alpiche & MWD Dan, TSgt Micheal Condry, and SSgt Roseann Kelly & MWD Tanja.



SrA Kathy Shih and MWD Luxi taking advantage of some down time at an Undisclosed Location in Southwest Asia. Would you just love an opportunity to drive that vehicle? I think that is what Luxi has in mind! The team is supported by Steve & Lise Gattis (CRB).

332nd ESFS canine defender: honored for service, ready for retirement

Posted 4/3/2012 Updated 4/3/2012 by Maj. Jillian Torango = 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

4/3/2012 - SOUTHWEST ASIA -- Tanja patiently waited at the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing's monthly awards and promotion ceremony until she and her partner were called forward to take center stage. This would be her last military ceremony here; when she redeploys she will retire after 10 years of faithful service.

The 12-year-old Belgian Malinois, on her seventh deployment from Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, was honored March 31 for her work here as a patrol dog with the 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.

She and her handler, Staff Sgt. Roseann Kelly, also deployed from Mountain Home, worked as a cohesive team here conducting more than 1,000 installation defense measures and searching more than 800 vehicles during their deployment.

Tanja and Kelly didn't just team up for this deployment; they are a team back at Mountain Home and have been together since Kelly was assigned there on July 15, 2011.

The bond between dog and handler was strong from the start. "When I arrived at Mountain Home she was the next dog who needed a handler," said the New York native.

"Usually military working dogs have to go through a period where they are introduced to their new handler, and learn over time that they are partners. Since she is so experienced she immediately knew I was her handler--we didn't have to do that."

This bond was never more evident than when Tanja alerted to a potential base intruder. She helped Kelly handle the situation so it could be quickly reported to higher headquarters.

While Tanja is all business when it comes to her job, she also enjoys having a little fun whenever she can.

"She is the sweetest dog and has such a great temperament, I consider her Mayor of the base," said Kelly; discussing how Tanja easily interacts with and befriends anyone she meets.

Because Tanja enjoys that interaction so much and thrives on the energy of crowds, Kelly loves bringing the dog to ceremonies and other fun events.

"I love to bring her to these ceremonies because she is usually the loudest dog," she said. "The excitement of a ceremony like this gets her so excited that she joins in the cheering."

With her retirement, the opportunities to attend ceremonies like this will likely come to an end, but the faces she sees will remain the same for the time to come.

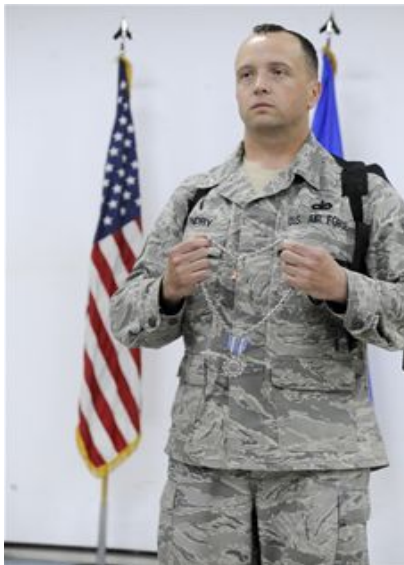
When Tanja redeploys she won't be able to patrol anymore, so she'll live and run around at the SFS canine facility at Mountain Home until she is officially retires and can be adopted -- more than likely by her handler.

"Since I am her last handler, I have the first right to request to adopt her and if at all possible," said Kelly with determination. "I plan on bringing her home."

332nd ESFS canine defender: honored for service – continued



SOUTHWEST ASIA -- The official party for a medal presentation walk in during a 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing monthly promotion ceremony here, March 31, 2012. Tanja, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron military working dog, was honored with an honorary achievement medal for her performance and service. Tanja and her handler, Staff Sgt. Roseann Kelly, 332nd ESFS military working dog handler, are deployed from Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. Kelly is a native of New York. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua J. Garcia)



LEFT - SOUTHWEST ASIA -- Tech. Sgt. Michael Condry, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron kennel master, holds an Air Force Achievement Medal here, March 31, 2012. The honorary award was presented to Tanja, 332nd ESFS military working dog, during the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing monthly promotion ceremony. Condry is deployed from Yokota Air Base, Japan, and is a native of Hastings, Neb. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua J. Garcia)

RIGHT - SOUTHWEST ASIA -- Maj. Timothy McCarty, 332nd Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron commander, places an honorary achievement medal on Tanja, 332nd ESFS military working dog, during the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing's monthly promotion ceremony, March 31, 2012. Tanja will be retired from active duty service after she completes her deployment with the 332nd AEW. McCarty is deployed from Hill Air Force Base, Utah, and is a native of Bay City, Mich. Tanja is deployed from Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joshua J. Garcia)

376th AEW/ESFS - Manas Transit Center, Kyrgyzstan



Transit Center at Manas celebrates St. Patty's

3/19/2012 - Military working dog Tomy and his handler Staff Sgt. Mary Boyer, 376th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, run in the St. Patrick's Day 5K fun run held at the Transit Center at Manas, Kyrgyzstan, March 17, 2012. Boyer finished first in her age group category with a run time of 24:16. Tomy is 9 years old and this was his first 5K. Boyer is deployed here from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., and her hometown is Lebanon, Pa. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Tracy L. DeMarco)

Tomy turned "63" on March 22nd. Way to go Team Tomy! SSgt Boyer and Tomy should be back at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington when this newsletter hits the street.

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates



New 2nd SFS kennels at Barksdale AFB, Louisiana. Built on the site of the original kennels.

Other News concerning OD&P Graduates



Ernie Childers (Udorn) recently returned “home” to Barksdale AFB for a visit with the 2nd SFS to see their new kennels. The new kennel was built over the site of Barksdale's first kennel built back in the 1950's. Ernie was a handler with the 2nd SPS 1969-1970 and again 1971-73. Ernie was hosted by OD&P graduate and Kennel Master TSgt Clayton Tebbetts.

TSgt Tebbetts has deployed with Old Dawgs & Pups three times since 2005. Clayton first tour with OD&P was to 506th ESFS / Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq in September of 2005. He was deployed from the 823rd SFS, Moody AFB, Georgia. and he was supported by David Clark (U-Tapao) and Jo Ann & DarRobertson (FoK) The Tech Sergeants second tour was once again to Kirkuk with the 823rd and J. D. Jones (Udorn) and the Robertsons (FoK) supported him in June of 2006.

Clayton's third tour was during his deployment to Camp Victory, Iraq in March of 2008. Once again he was deployed from Moody AFB, and he was supported by Scotty Baker (Safeside) and Dixie Whitman (FoK).



Clayton & MWD Basco (2005-2006) and “Sitting on the throne” 2008.

Feed the Dawgs Project 2012 Schedule



The *Feed the Dawgs* Project is a culmination of United States Military Vietnam Veterans, Active Duty Military Working Dog Personnel, and patriotic citizens joining together to support and recognize the dedication and patriotism of today's Military Working Dog Teams around the globe. The United States Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, and Navy deploy Military Working. We feed steak barbecues to active military dog handlers in all branches of United States service as they return from or "ship out" for "deployment" to the front lines on the War on Terror.

If you are interested in assisting in one of the projects or need more information about "*Feed the Dawgs*" please contact Jon Hemp at jmhemp@feedthedawgs.com

Here is the Feed the Dawgs schedule for 2012 – Get Involved!

April	21	Davis Monthan AFB - 355 th SFS MWD Section – U. S. Air Force
May	12	29 Palms Marine Base – PMO/IIIMEF Marines - U. S. Marines Corp
June	2	Vandenberg AFB – 30 th SFS MWD Section – U. S. Air Force
June	23	MCRD/San Diego Marines – Marine Corps Recruit Depot - U. S. Marines Corp

Here's this month's update on the K-9 Supply Program

At the time of this report we have **25** members of the "Old Dawgs & Pups" program actively supporting **22** handlers assigned to seven (7) kennels in Southwest Asia.

Our K-9 Supply program has been coordinated and funded by the "Old Dawgs & Pups". The supporters are members of the VSPA, VDHA, and friends of K-9. A total of **1,565** pieces of equipment has been delivered to our K-9 troops serving in the AOR from August 21, 2005 to April 15, 2012. Over **377** "Old Dawgs and Friends" have supported **81** kennels and **311** K-9 personnel via our program. For additional information on the program please go to:

http://www.pbase.com/635thk9/old_dawgs

Please review the photos, press releases, and more about our ongoing programs.

We have purchased and shipped **\$19,820.00** of supplies for the **81** kennels solely via your personal donations. Including the Leatherman corporate and Helping Udders donations, the total is **\$73,146.00**

Please note that this figure does not include all the goodies some of you have sent directly, or which came from other organizations we've been involved with but who shipped their donations independently. WAY TO GO K-9 SUPPLY!

List of Supplies Shipped by Old Dawgs & Pups

- 267 Leatherman “Surge” Tools (145) Donated by Leatherman)
 - * The Leatherman “Surge”/Muts/Flashlights/Knives donation is valued at approximately **\$49,906.00**
- 213 Thailand Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 163 * Leatherman Serac S3 Leatherman Flashlights
- 155 Thailand Historical Base Patches
- 100 Guardian Pet Beds (Pet Edge)
- 75 * Leatherman Knives (Models: c33T, e55, e55B, e33L)
- 52 Kongs (Assorted sizes)
- 46 Sponges
- 44 PSI Water Holes
- 40 Cleaning/Scouring Pads
- 34 * Leatherman MUT Tools
- 33 Kygen Port-A-Bowls
- 25 Doggles (10 Pairs were donated)
- 24 Kygen 2-In-1 Food/Water Bowls
- 24 Rolls 26”x78” 20% Dark Limo Window Tint (Checker Auto Supply)
- 19 VSPA Challenge Coins (Donated & Purchased)
- 16 Cooling Vests & Extra Cooling Packs (**Helping Udders -Value \$3,420.00**)
- 16 Coastal Medium Firm Shedding Blades
- 16 Classic Long Tooth Undercoat rakes
- 15 Classic HG Food Dishes
- 12 Coastal Large Slickers
- 12 Retractable Leashes (Pet Edge)
- 12 Flat Sided Stainless Steel Water Pails (Pet Edge)
- 12 Bucket Clips (Pet Edge)
- 12 Heavy Guard Handled Water Pails
- 10 Muzzles (Dressler’s)
- 10 Heavy Duty Handled Pails - 9 Qt. - (Pet Edge)
- 10 Stainless Steel - 3 Qt Dura-weight Bowls (Pet Edge)
- 10 Helping Udder Reward Toys (Helping Udders)
- 9 Hose Nozzles
- 8 K9 Bluelight Supplement (2 lb)
- 8 Cooling Wraps (Roshgo Corp)
- 8 Cooling Wraps (Roshgo Corp)
- 8 Cooldanna Cooling Mats (Roshgo Corp)
- 8 Sets of Flood Light Bulbs
- 8 24” Heavy Duty Floor Squeegees
- 7 Digital Thermometers
- 6 Sets Ruff Wear Bark’n Boots Trex (Ray Allen)
- 6 Retractable Leashes
- 4 Carabiners
- 4 5” Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 100 Foot Water Hoses
- 3 20” Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 12” Heavy Duty Cleaning Brushes
- 3 Ceremonial K-9 Badges (Memorial)
- 2 Hose Reels – Wheels
- 2 50 Foot Water Hoses
- 2 Spray Bottles & Sprayers
- 2 150 Foot Enclosed Hose Reels
- 2 * Leatherman EOD MUT Tools
- 1 Large Patrol Harness
- 1 Medium Patrol Harness
- 1 Drink Mixes & Snacks (Large Box)
- 1 Case Toilet Paper (30 Rolls)
- 1 Syntek Hidden Sleeve (Ray Allen)